Docket No. 10517/173

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Tomokazu Hayashi, et al.

Serial No.

Unassigned

Filed

Herewith

Group Art Unit

Unassigned

Examiner

Unassigned

For

SEAL STRUCTURE OF FUEL CELL UNIT AND

MANUFACTURING METHOD OF THE SAME

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR § 1.56, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the reference(s) listed on the attached PTO-1449. Unless otherwise indicated herein, one copy of each reference is attached. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the reference(s) be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom. The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement and the enclosed PTO Form No. 1449, shall not be construed as an admission that the information cited is prior art, or is considered to be material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(b). The paragraphs marked below are applicable.

1. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed (a) within three months of the filing date of a national application other than a continued prosecution application under 37 C.F.R. §1.53(d), (b) within three months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.491 in an international application, (c) before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits in the present application, OR (d) before the mailing of a first office action after filing of a request for continued examination. No certification or fee is required.

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| ne me | This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three s after the U.S. filing date AND after the mailing date of the first Office Action on erits, but before the mailing date of a final action, Notice of Allowance, or any that otherwise closes prosecution. |
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| | ☐ a. I hereby certify that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patient office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filling of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 CFR §1.97(e)(1). |
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| | \square c. Please debit Deposit Account No. <u>11-0600</u> in the amount of \$180.00 in payment of the fee under 37 CFR §1.17(p) to ensure consideration of the disclosed information. Two duplicate copies of this paper are attached. 37 CFR §1.97(c)(2). |
| efore Disclo | 3. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed after the mailing date nal action, Notice of Allowance or an action that otherwise closes prosecution, but a payment of the Issue Fee. Applicant(s) hereby request(s) that the Information sure Statement be considered. Please debit Deposit Account No. 11-0600 in the nt of \$180.00 in payment of the petition fee under 37 CFR §1.17(p) to ensure deration of the disclosed information. Two duplicate copies of this paper are led. |
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| present spe | | nanguage reference(s) is discussed in the | | | | |
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| ☐ 6, English lang information. | The reference(s) was/were cited in a counterpart foreign application. An guage version of the foreign search report is attached for the Examiner's | | | | | |
| 7. reference(s | A concise explanation of the appears in the Appendix attac | relevance of the non-English language hed hereto. | | | | |
| subject mat as a waiver application | , filed, filed ter. The identification of this U. of secrecy as to that application as a patent. The Examiner is re | irected to co-pending U.S. Patent Application, which is directed to related technical S. Patent Application is not to be construed n now or upon issuance of the present sepectfully requested to consider the cited examination of the present application. | | | | |
| identification secrecy as patent. The | opendix, which are directed to re n of those U.S. Patent Application to those applications now or up | eries of related applications, identified in the elated technical subject matter. The ons is not to be construed as a waiver of on issuance of the present application as a sted to consider the cited applications and | | | | |
| ☐ 10. application an earlier fil attached. 3 | The reference(s) was/were ci No, filed ing date under 35 U.S.C. §120. 7 CFR §1.98(d). | ted by or submitted to the Office in parent which is relied upon for Thus, copies of these references are not | | | | |
| ☐ 11. attached he | | of the non-English language references are | | | | |
| 12.0 | Other. | | | | | |
| | | Respectfully submitted, | | | | |
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| Date: July | 17, 2003 | Mark H. Neblett Registration No. 42,028 | | | | |

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| | | | U.S. PATEN | T DOCUMENTS | | |
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| | | JP 08-045517 A | 2/16/1996 | Koichi et al. | | X (abstract) |
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